

Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph #002, beginning on page 1, line 6, with the following amended paragraph:

[002] In dual component electrophotographic toning systems, the developer, which contains a mixture of both toner and carrier particles, must flow freely with the ability to make toner available to the electrostatic image. In existing systems, during normal operation of electrostatic image development, the developer mix is continually exercised and aerated by mechanical blenders in the developer sump. When operation of the equipment ceases for a time, for example overnight, the developer settles and loses aeration. Loss of aeration can cause a developer flow more like wet cement, with variable density throughout the developer mass, rather than a flow of a light, dry powder. With most dual component developers this condition is fleeting and the developer mix is quickly aerated with exercise on startup.

Please replace the paragraph #014, beginning on page 5, line 18, with the following amended paragraph:

[014] The present invention focuses more specifically upon ferromagnetic toner, and problems in the control of printing with such toner, as described in the Background section. More particularly, the present invention addresses problems attendant with attaining and maintaining good flow characteristics of developer having ferromagnetic toner, especially after such developer remains in a stagnant unused state for a period of time sufficient to cause the developer to set. As used herein, the term "set" means that internal forces tend to cause the developer to adhere to itself such that it does not have suitable flow properties, for example after mixing by a blender that would render acceptable flow in a developer comprising non-ferromagnetic toner and hard magnetic carriers. As used herein, "exercising" or "exercise cycle" means a pre-imaging blending cycle implemented to place the

developer in proper condition for image development. The present invention is also concerned with avoiding print engine lockout due to toner monitor readings outside an acceptable range, and further aspects evident from the description presented herein.

Please replace the paragraph #016, beginning on page 6, line 8, with the following amended paragraph:

[016] As discussed in the Background section, clumping of set developer in the sump can cause the control system to sense a low toner state that is outside an acceptable operating range and to lock-out the print engine in response. According to another aspect of the invention, this is avoided by adding a relatively small amount of the ferromagnetic toner at the start of the ~~exercise~~ exercising cycle. The additional toner has the effect of dropping the toner monitor's output immediately. This alone may move the toner monitor output to a range wherein the print engine will not shut down for low toner. The toner may be added before or during the exercising cycle.